

Window to the World

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Newsletter of the Tennessee Library for the Blind & Physically Handicapped

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LBPH Recommends: Summer Reading Specials for Kids and Teens

Summer is coming in, so we asked TSLA's resident children's librarian, Julie Duke, to recommend some super summer reading for children and teens. Here are her picks.

Kids: Go Wild At the Library

Ready for some jungle adventure this summer? All children in Tennessee are invited to participate in this year's statewide summer reading program: ***Jungle Tales: Hiss, Rumble & Roar!*** Contact your local public library to register for this summer reading program. And ask how our braille and talking books can fit into the program. LBPH has bunches of books to please a whole menagerie. Here are just a few:

Ballpoint Bananas and Other Jokes for Kids, by Charles Keller (RC 52555)

Grades 1- 4

"What is yellow and goes 'click click'?"

"A ballpoint banana!"

For more zany jokes, check this out!

How to Catch an Elephant, by Amy Schwartz (BR 13014)

Grades Pre K - 3

Just how do you catch an Elephant with raisins, a telescope, tweezers, and cake?

Me Tarzan, by Betsy Byars (RC 51547)

Grades 2 - 5

Dorothy gets the part of Tarzan in the school play, but the better she gets at her "Tarzan yell", the stranger things get.

Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters, by John Steptoe (RC 26453)

Grades K - 4

Two beautiful sisters, one kind and one ill-tempered, go to meet the king, who is looking for a Wife. Set in Africa.

That's Good! That's Bad!, by Margery Cuyler (RC 43810)

Grades K - 4

A young boy's visit to the zoo goes from bad to good to worse!

Tigers at Twilight, by Mary Pope Osborne (RC 54429/BR 14206)

Grades 2 - 5

With the help of the Magic Tree House, Jack and Annie travel to India to visit tigers and other endangered animals.

Verdi, by Janell Cannon (RC 47072)

Grades K - 4

A yellow baby python named "Verdi" doesn't want to grow up.

Teens: Tune In @ The Library

Bored with the mall? We don't blame you. Escape the *ennui* with one of these chill reads, available from LBPH:

A Fate Totally Worse than Death, by Paul Fleischman (BR 10800/RC 42945)

Welcome to Cliffside High, the school from your worst nightmares. It's run by a ruthless clique of rich kids; messing with them can be murder.

Indigo's Star, by Hilary McKay

(BR 15737/RC 59536)

Indigo dreads Mondays, and school in general, because he's become the target of the red haired bully and his gang of rabble. How can Indigo get them to stop picking on him?

Millions, by Frank Cottrell Boyce

(RC 60063)

A bag crammed with cash mysteriously drops at the feet of brothers Damian and Anthony. Are they rich! There's a problem though -- they only have seventeen days to spend the money before it becomes worthless. What would YOU do with a million dollars?

Shiva's Fire, by Suzanne Fisher Staples

(RC 51704)

Parvati loves to dance the traditional dances of her native country, India. She is so gifted in the art of dance that she is invited to train with a famous teacher. Will Parvati give up her family and friends to pursue her love of dance? (You'll have to read it to find out.)

Teens who want to tune into their own creativity can try some of these titles:

Aromatherapy: The Complete Guide to Plant and Flower Essence For Health and Beauty, by Daniele Ryman
(BR 12096)

Crochet Your Way: Learn-To-Crochet an Afghan, and Over 40 Projects for Home And Family, by Gloria Tracy
(RC 51102)

Hobbies: an Introduction to Crafts, Collections, Nature Study, and Other Life Long Pursuits, by Alvin Schwartz,
(BR 02382)

Teen Knitting Club: Chill Out And Knit, by Jennifer Wenger (BR 15570)

The Tiger's Eye, The Bird's Fist: A Beginner's Guide to the Martial Arts, by Louise Rafkin (RC 45884)

A Late Flash

In addition to Julie's picks for young readers, we have just received word on winners of the 2006 Schneider Family Book Awards, presented by the American Library Association. . This Award is donated by Katherine Schneider, Ph.D. It honors an author or illustrator for a book that embodies an artistic expression of the disability experience for child and adolescent audiences. Recipients are selected in three categories: birth through grade school (ages 0-10), middle school (ages 11-13), and teens (ages 13-18). Recipients in each category receive \$5,000 and a framed plaque, which is presented during the ALA Annual Conference.

Young Children: *Dad, Jackie, and Me*, by Myron Uhlberg and Colin Bootman.
(PB In Process)

Middle School: *Tending to Grace*, by Kimberly Newton Fusco
(BR 15890/RC In-Process)

Teen Award: *Under the Wolf, Under the Dog*, by Adam Rapp.
(RC 59790)

...And One Recommendation for Grown-Ups

If you want to add a little sophistication and intellectual tone to your reading list, check out *Choice Magazine Listening*. Every other month this service issues an eight-hour selection of articles, essays and short stories culled from leading magazines and reviews. Publications sampled range from *The New Yorker* and *Poetry* to *Sports Illustrated* and *Vanity Fair*.

The service is free to qualified users, including LBPH patrons, and cassettes are designed to play on your 4-track NLS player. You can subscribe online at www.choicemagazinelistening.org, or contact this organization at 888-724-6423 (toll-free) or at ChoiceMag@Aol.Com (e-mail).

STAFF Profile

Those of you who are listening to this issue on cassette are hearing the voice of this quarter's profile subject, Reader Adviser Francine Sharpe. In addition to serving as the voice of *WTTW*, Francine looks out for the E-K segment of our LBPH patron alphabet. A 12-year veteran of TSLA, Francine worked first in our Public Services and Legislative Services departments before joining LBPH as a Reader Adviser in 2000.

Although she was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Francine can claim strong Tennessee roots. She spent much of her childhood in rural Rutherford and Coffee counties while her electrician father was working at the Arnold Engineering Development Center in Tullahoma. Her family moved to Nashville in the 7th grade. Here she attended Isaac Litton Junior and Senior High Schools before joining the Women's Army Corps in 1962.

As a WAC, she served for a year at Fort Lawton, near Seattle, Washington. Marriage and son Scott soon followed. Over the next three decades Francine lived and worked in Oregon, Wisconsin and Arizona before returning to Nashville in 1994 to help her mother through a final illness.

Today, while she's not helping patrons and supervising our steadily -growing application files, Francine enjoys gardening, reading and walking. But her real joy is to dote on her three rescued cats, Cat, Samson and Gracie, and to plan visits to grandchildren Hailee, 15, and Rylan, 11, who live with their father Scott in Sutherlin, Oregon.

Francine is thinking of joining them in Oregon when she retires, but that shouldn't be any time soon. You'll still be hearing from her, quite literally, on every issue of *WTTW*.

Survey 2006

In January we told you that our patron satisfaction survey would be coming in the next issue. Then the budget bear raided our camp stores. Our survey's still coming, but it can't appear before the start of the new fiscal year, July 1. In the meantime, please feel free to call, write or e-mail us with your concerns or suggestions.

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